



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007-1866

MAR 20 2015

BY EMAIL & US MAIL

Daniel Riesel, Esq.
Sive Paget & Riesel P.C.
460 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Re: Diamond Alkali Superfund Site - Lower Passaic River Study Area

Dear Mr. Riesel:

This will respond to your letter dated March 19, 2015, submitted on behalf of ten entities that have been named as potentially responsible parties (PRPs) with respect to the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA).

As you note in your letter, this is not the first time that EPA has been approached by PRPs in search of a *de minimis* settlement for the LPRSA. It is EPA's view that the issuance of a Record of Decision (ROD) for the lower eight miles of the LPRSA, which we anticipate will occur in 2015, will present a time for discussions regarding potential *de minimis* and *de micromis* settlements. Any such discussions will need to take into consideration a number of factors including those mentioned in your letter as well as EPA's interest in ensuring funding for the design and implementation of the selected remedy.

While we appreciate your thoughts on this matter and the information you have presented, we don't feel that a meeting with just one group of PRPs would be productive at this time. We will keep your offer in mind for the future, particularly as we draw closer to issuance of the ROD.

If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Assistant Regional Counsel Sarah Flanagan, who can be reached at 212-637-3136.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Schaaf", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Eric Schaaf
Regional Counsel